

# Centenary Snippets

## *Catholic Schools in the district prior to St Patrick's school.*

There were two Catholic schools in the Goodna area before our school was opened. The first one was in 1868 on the corner of Redbank Plains Road and School Road. The school began as a one teacher school with Mr Richard Doran as the teacher. In 1868 there was some government financial assistance to support the setting up of new schools. Two years later the school lost its funding when Goodna State School opened. Without financial support the teacher Mr Doran moved to the new school and the Catholic school closed.

1874, four years after the first school closed Fr Andrew Horan, Ipswich Parish Priest, invited Mary MacKillop's Sisters of St Joseph to Redbank Plains to revive the Catholic school. Three years later, in 1877, the school closed as there were only 8 students in the school. Mary MacKillop withdrew the sisters and placed them in other schools where the needs were greater. The school building became a residence and was moved to 31 Church Street in 1916. Charlie Harnell who was the school caretaker for 10 years lived in that house until he passed away in 1975.

